

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 COLOMB 03186 121949Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 /019 W
-----111761 131451Z /46

R 120835Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 831

UNCLAS COLOMBO 3186

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRA, CE
SUBJ: VISIT OF TEXAS INSTRUMENTS VICE PRESIDENT

REF: STATE 169434

1. MANAGER OF TEXAS INSTRUMENTS (TI) CORPORATE FACILITIES IN ASIA, TIMOTHY RAMSEY, ARRIVED COLOMBO JULY 6 AND MET WITH ECON OFFICER, LOCAL BANKING OFFICIALS, SECRETARY OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR RATWATTE OF THE GREATER COLOMBO ECONOMIC COMMISSION. VICE PRESIDENT DALE CUNNINGHAM ARRIVED JULY 10, MET WITH THE ABOVE, AND PAID COURTESY CALL ON FINANCE MINISTER JULY 11. ECON OFFICER HOSTED DINNER FOR CUNNINGHAM AND RAMSEY TO MEET LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE OF AMERICAN FIRMS. ALL MEETINGS WENT WELL, AND CUNNINGHAM AND RAMSEY SEEMED SATISFIED WITH VISIT.

2. TI IS LOOKING AT SRI LANKA, ALONG WITH AT LEAST THREE OTHER COUNTRIES (KOREA, THE PHILIPPINES, AND CHILE) AS SITE FOR NEW PLANT TO ASSEMBLY ELECTRONIC DEVICES. PLANT WOULD EMPLOY APPROXIMATELY 3,000, AND 15 EXPATRIATES WOULD BE REQUIRED DURING START-UP PHASE. INVESTMENT WOULD BE AT LEAST DLRS 5 MILLION. IF TI DECIDES TO ESTABLISH IN SRI LANKA, IT WOULD BE ONE OF THE LARGEST PRIVATE EMPLOYERS IN THE COUNTRY.

3. IT QUITE CLEAR THAT DEVELOPMENT OF FREE TRADE ZONE MOVING SLOWLY, AND PRESENT SUPPLY OF UTILITIES INADEQUATE FOR TI S NEEDS. IF OTHER CONDITIONS RIGHT, HOWEVER, TI PREPARED TO INSTALL THEIR OWN POWER AND WATER SUPPLIES. WHILE TI WOULD NO DOUBT FIND
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PAGE 02 COLOMB 03186 121949Z

WORKING IN SRI LANKA MORE DIFFICULT THAN SINGAPORE OR TAIWAN, EMBASSY BELIEVES TI COULD MAKE DEFINITE CONTRIBUTION OF SRI LANKA S DEVELOPMENT. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE ANY FEEDBACK DEPARTMENT GETS ON TI S INTENTIONS.
WRIGGINS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Draft Date: 12 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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